



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY INTELLIGENCE CENTER AND FORT HUACHUCA
1903 HATFIELD STREET
FORT HUACHUCA, ARIZONA 85613-7000

ATZS-CG

29 April 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: POLICY 110 – Travel to Mexico

1. REFERENCE. AR 600-8-10, Leaves and Passes, 31 Jul 03.
2. POLICY. Pursuant to AR 600-8-10, Army personnel must have approval to travel outside of the United States. Military personnel must have a valid DA Form 31, which specifically authorizes travel in Mexico, signed by the Soldier's battalion commander before being allowed to travel to Mexico, including the border town cities of Douglas, Naco, and Nogales. Acting battalion commanders may also sign the DA Form 31 allowing travel to Mexico; however, this authority may not be further delegated.
3. Any service member traveling into Mexico (pass or leave) must have received an Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection (AT/FP) briefing from their Bn S2 prior to EACH visit to Mexico - no exceptions.
4. Military personnel must have the approved DA Form 31 in their physical possession when leaving the United States, while in Mexico, and when re-entering the United States. The wear of any military uniform is not authorized during travel, while in, entering or exiting Mexico. The only exceptions to this policy are when military personnel enter Mexico: (a) in an official capacity on official military business; or (b) to attend an event which I have personally authorized for military participation.
5. Military personnel do not have permission to travel in Mexico to establish or maintain a place of residence; military personnel will not live in Mexico while assigned to a unit at Fort Huachuca. This prohibition does not prevent personnel who have properly authorized DA Forms 31 allowing travel to Mexico as tourists from living in temporary quarters while in Mexico.
6. Each battalion is responsible for maintaining a control-number log for Soldiers authorized to visit Mexico and the dates the Soldiers were permitted to visit Mexico. Each DA Form 31 authorizing travel to Mexico, regardless of whether approved as leave or pass, will be assigned a control number and recorded on a leave control log in accordance with AR 600-8-10, Chapter 12. Unit records will include a copy of the approved DA Form 31, and will be maintained for accountability and enforcement purposes for a minimum of one year.

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7. This policy is punitive in nature and applies to all military personnel, whether living on or off post, under my general court-martial jurisdiction; it constitutes a lawful general order. Military personnel who violate or fail to obey this policy subject themselves to disciplinary action under Article 92, UCMJ.

8. Commanders and directors will ensure widest possible dissemination of this policy letter and post it on all official boards.

9. PROPONENT. USAIC&FH Chief of Staff, 533-1142.

Encl
Mexico Travel Guidance



BARBARA G. FAST
Major General, USA
Commanding

DISTRIBUTION: E

GOING TO MEXICO, SOLDIER?

If so, the Office of the Provost Marshal has some tips to keep you out of trouble:

1. Per order from the Commanding General, all military personnel traveling to Mexico must have a written pass or leave form specifically authorizing travel in Mexico. This pass/leave form must be in your possession at all times when traveling to/from Mexico.
2. Mexican officials and U.S. Customs Agents are requiring proof of citizenship. Be prepared to show a Birth Certificate or Passport or Voter Registration *plus* a picture ID when leaving and entering the U.S. A military ID alone is not proof of citizenship.
3. DO NOT make any casual or written reference to your intelligence training activities. Also, do not make casual references about your military duties or other related activities with the U.S. government.
4. DO NOT accept any packages or items from anyone for delivery in Mexico or the U.S. to a third party.
5. DO NOT engage in any illegal money transactions or black market activities. If asked, make an accurate and complete declaration of money (including traveler's checks) and all valuables (including cameras and jewelry), whether worn or carried.
6. STAY AWAY from political demonstrations and/or labor strikes.
7. IMMEDIATELY report any attempts by foreigners to provide you with intelligence information or any attempts to get defense-related information from you. If you suspect an approach has been made, report in person to your respective S2 or SDO immediately upon return to Fort Huachuca. The S2 or SDO will give you the number to the 902nd MI Detachment at Fort Huachuca, which you will then contact. Also, report any attempts to gain information outside of official channels. This can include names of U.S. citizens, information about military jobs, manuals, regulations, etc.
8. DO NOT carry more money than you will need or would be willing to lose. Put excess funds in your bank account or leave at home. If you must carry large amounts, use traveler's checks.
9. If you drive, check ahead of time with your insurance company to see if your insurance is valid in Mexico; many insurance companies DO NOT cover your vehicle in Mexico.
10. Use the buddy system. Go in groups and keep an eye on each other. Stay away from dark side streets.
11. Stay away from those who promise you a good time. Finding a good time on your own is not difficult.
12. Be careful of what you buy. Switchblade knives are illegal in the United States, and carrying any weapon into/within Mexico can result in arrest. In addition, many items that can be purchased legally in Mexico are illegal in the United States. Do not try to smuggle illegal goods/items back into our country (items from Cuba, drugs/medicine, etc.).
13. Agree ahead of time with cab drivers on cab fares so you will not end up with a fare higher than you consider reasonable. The same goes for bars or restaurants; keep an eye on your bill and do not run up an excessive amount that you cannot afford. Keep in mind that you are obligated to pay for drinks you order for bar girls.
14. Know your alcohol limit and stay within it. Irrational behavior under the influence of intoxicants can get you into more trouble than you thought possible. The drinking age in Mexico is 18; however, drinking or being drunk in public is a misdemeanor.

15. It is easy to get drugs in Mexico; however, it is also just as easy to get caught. The same person who sells the stuff to you might be the one who turns you in. You will find the penalties more rigorous in Mexico than in the United States.

16. If you are questioned by the police in Mexico, be polite. You do not enjoy the same civil rights in Mexico as in the United States and can be detained indefinitely for investigation. If arrested, do not resist arrest as Mexican Police will use any force necessary.

17. Do not lose track of time and become AWOL.

18. Be sure you are "clear" at the border when returning. U.S. Customs Agents are quick to spot suspicious persons, are highly adept at searches, and know all the hiding places. They are also assisted by drug-detecting dogs. Be cooperative and be prepared to declare all items purchased in Mexico.

REMEMBER THAT YOU ARE A SOLDIER. EVEN ACROSS THE BORDER YOUR CONDUCT REFLECTS UPON THE ARMED FORCES; ALSO REMEMBER THAT YOU ARE SUBJECT TO THE UCMJ WHEREVER YOU ARE!